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# Central China Record.

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CENTRAL CHINA MISSION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Vol. 6. No. 9.

NANKING.

September, 1903.

*According to your faith be it unto you.*

Prayer-cycle of our Mission. 1 Sam. 12:23.

MONDAY, CHINKIANG.

THURSDAY, KIUKIANG.

TUESDAY, NANKING.

FRIDAY, NANCHANG.

WEDNESDAY, WUHU.

SATURDAY, CHIENCHANG.

SUNDAY, THE ENTIRE MISSION.

## The Vacation Number.

What! Vacation for missionaries? There must be some mistake. Missionaries are sent by the Boards to work, and paid salaries to work, not to use up on vacation trips. Yet in spite of all this we have called the present number of the Record, "The Vacation Number." Most missionaries take a vacation, the time to get away from their work, when the thoughts that have been filling their minds and hearts for the best part of a year are thrown aside for the something entirely different. The man who does not do that on the Mission field must be one whose work is so varied that his changes bring rest.

The idea of a missionary—"a real live missionary"—to some at home is very vague. They are sometimes sought for like some wild animals, come from afar. Some one, an utter stranger to the writer, called

at the same home at which he was stopping while on furlough; when about to go the caller remarked, "I must be going, but before I go, I must see the missionary."

The missionary was accordingly brought out and exhibited. The caller having gazed went away satisfied.

Others think missionaries have wings, either full grown or sprouting and if he laughs a little more heartily than he should or inadvertantly lets slip a word not found, according to Webster, in good usage, they are surprised and seem to think, "Oh, he is just like the rest of us."

Others believe the missionary should receive no salary except when right at his post. One of the Central China missionaries was once driven from her work by riots.

The district in which she was laboring was unsettled for six months, which time she spent in Japan. In speaking of this to an

American audience, when she was home on furlough, she was interrupted by a good sister who wanted to ask a question. She said, "And did you take your salary while you were in Japan?" The good lady looked as though all her ideas of the missionary would have to be recast when she received the unhesitating reply, "why, of course."

To all these of whom I have written and any others who may not feel sure in what category to place the missionary, I wish to address a brief note of information.

Dear friends: The missionary is only a common mortal, just like yourself. He gets his name only because in the eyes of the Church and the world he goes when he is sent. You too are a missionary *if you go* where you are sent. There is no doubt about your having been sent. The missionary gets tired, like you; he gets sick, like you; he loves his home, his mother's and his father's home, just like you; he gets impatient sometimes, just like you; alas, he has at times become angry, has said unkind, cutting words, and has shamed his Maker and Master. Whenever again you think of the missionary, think this, "He is just like me."

W. F. W.

### Furloughs, Why?

This paragraph is not intended for a comprehensive reply. It may be unsatisfactory to the reader. To any such I would say, before making a final judgment, if possible, come and see for yourself.

1. Physical reasons. Most of the foreign mission fields are in very trying climates. This possibly, in part, accounts for the condition of the peoples among whom they labor.

With many most excellent exceptions, the missionary labors under exceptional disadvantages, corresponding in kind, to the workman forced to work with poorly tempered tools. It is not so much the amount of work he does or tries to do with his poor tools, that tells so on his vitality, as the nervous energy required in trying to do good work with poor tools.

Only the greatest can master these conditions.

#### 2. Mental reasons.

The cry of the vast majority of missionaries is, "I have no time to keep up suitable reading." The great tendency is to fail to take the time one has, but to let the less important—which possibly seems the more important—take its place.

Most missionaries work among the uneducated. Again the tendency is to give and keep giving only what one has.

Many missionaries do not neglect this reading, more do neglect it, and both need what the furloughs can bring to them; the former need contact for a season with minds as keen or keener than their own; the latter need the general inspiring influence which comes from a more highly educated class of people.

#### 3. Social Reasons.

The world is beyond the hermit period, but many missionaries are practically shut away for years from all contact with the outside world. Until Kuling and other similar resorts were established there was no help for this difficulty except in the home going.

The summer resorts now in large measure supply this need. But a missionary really needs at times to come in contact with the world outside of his own sphere. He may be glad to get back to his own, but his excursion will have made him a better man.

#### 4. Spiritual reasons.

Bible reading is good, and can be done anywhere. The reading of the highest thoughts of man of this age or any other age is possible to any who can buy or borrow. But the coming in touch with these men of highest experience, the hearing of the words of truth put in new forms, and sent forth with power, with all the fire and spirit of an inspired man behind them is practically impossible for most on the field, and one such memory gained in a furlough may mean to a man more than all the reading he has ever done.

Men are not all alike; some get their inspiration in their study, some in the fields; some among men of various classes, but I have yet to find the man who finds his highest inspirations in the general humdrum of a Chinese crowd.

Encouragements there are; causes for the greatest thankfulness are abundant, but inspirations which are God given are not to be sought for among a Godless people.

W. F. W.

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#### Kuling.

Kuling is the great summer resort and sanitarium of Central China.

Lest any one should think that it is but a luxury, we would say, at the beginning, that it is a necessity to the foreign residents of the great Yangtze valley. He alone who has been there and experienced all, can understand what it means to live in the intense and sultry heat of the valley during the summer months when miasma and contagious disease reign supreme. This great sanitarium has been opened but about six years. Not infrequently one hears some old resident of Central China say, "If we had had Kuling

years ago, this one or that one would still be living." There are a number of cases still fresh in the memory where individuals, brought half-dead from the plain, thoroughly recovered under the beneficial and invigorating conditions of the atmosphere.

Kuling is not only noted for its life-saving qualities: it is a haven of rest for the weary laborer. After ten months of continuous work under the unfavorable conditions with which a missionary has to cope, it is a balm for the weary mind and body to be able to leave these debilitating influences and rest for a few weeks. Thus it happens that men and women come sometime in July, bleached, worn, and tired, while in September they go down strengthened and rested, ready to carry on the work with greatly renewed energy.

Kuling is situated in the province of Kiangsi, about sixteen miles south of the city of Kiukiang, in the Li mountains. These mountains rise abruptly from the Yangtze valley to a height of about 5,000 feet, and are in themselves a piece of most beautiful scenery. They abound in great rocks, precipices, cañons, beautiful rushing mountain torrents and verdant valleys watered by pure crystal streams. This pure, fresh water is nectar when compared with the luke-warm, insipid boiled water of the plain. Kuling itself is not situated on the very summit, but in one of these beautiful valleys at an altitude of about 4,000 feet. The trip from Kiukiang is made in mountain chairs in about five hours. Ten miles of the road are over a fertile plain covered with fields of rice, cotton, Chinese potatoes, etc. After a short stop and a change of chair bearers at the half-way rest-house, the last stage of the trip

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(about six miles) is made over a steep mountain road, along the side of deep precipices where a single misstep means a fall of hundreds of feet, and up over the lower peaks of the mountain range to the Kuling valley.

The present year is the best year of its history. On the night of the 5th of August, there were 663 foreigners here, of whom 334 are British subjects, and 252 claim the protection of the Stars and Stripes. 135 houses have been erected. The greater number of these are built of white sandstone, in which these mountains abound, the roof being of galvanized iron. Thus the houses are not only beautiful cottages, but really so substantial that rain and weather do very little harm.

The Methodist Episcopal Mission is in possession of a very fine property here, and at practically no expense to the Missionary Society. It is situated in a place where it commands the best scenery of the entire estate as well as the best water. There are six houses,—one

single house, and five double houses of which each half has three or four living rooms. A winding pathway leads up through the property, among trees which, at present, are small, but will soon be of considerable size. During this year, Rev. R. E. Maclean and Dr. Beebe have superintended the putting in of a water system from the superb spring at the upper end of the property, to the various houses. Rev. Edward James has been kept busy looking after the road and the laying of the foundation for a small pavilion. Such improvements speak for themselves, and are a valuable acquisition to the property. The next thing we want is a good name for the whole. Some one has suggested "Asbury Heights." Why not?

That Kuling is a Christian summer resort is at once apparent; for one of the first things the newcomer sees is the beautiful church in the valley next to a gushing mountain stream. This church has proved a blessing to the entire community. The Church Council has secured the very best of religious services and has inaugurated a fine series of lectures. Nearly all the Protestant missions have been represented, and it is superfluous to say that excellent sermons were delivered. The church will seat 300 or more people. During the months of July and August of this year it has been very well filled, and it is feared that in the near future it will be too small. A movement is on foot for its enlargement.

These few remarks are sufficient to prove that Kuling is a great blessing to the missionaries, and foreigners in general, of Central China.

F. G. H.

## Methodists Furnish Water for Baptists.

Kuling, as may be seen from an article on another page, furnishes a summer home for all missionaries of whatever denomination. Kuling invites, introduces, and unifies this missionary body. Many are the advantages Kuling offers; among the greatest is the uncontaminated, deliciously cool springs. The largest of these by some streak of—good fortune say—flows down through the Methodist valley. The spring breaks out within our property and makes it possible for us to give to him that asks a cup of pure cold water.

During the present season pipes have been laid running to all the different Methodist houses, and as suggested in the heading of our paragraph to some houses outside.

The missionary in charge of the laying of this water system,—a thankless job but one for which all feel grateful—tells some of his experiences in another column in his "Water-works notes."

W. F. W.

## Water-works Notes.

### *A new shrine :*

Along the line of the water pipes a large, rather peculiarly shaped rock can be seen standing up on edge. It is the new shrine. When blasting one day, to make way for the pipes, this rock sprang into this position. To the Chinaman it was the god of the mountain that stood before him; and when the waterman came back, sometime afterwards, he found two candles and three large sticks of incense burning before the newly appeared god.

### *A new Convert :*

Shortly after beginning operations, old Lao Yang, the head of the work-gang, confidentially informed the water-works man that hereafter he wanted to "follow him to prayers." It was impressed on him that to go to prayers was very commendable, but that good reliable work on the water-works was a contract that stood on its own merits. The smile that gathered round the corners of his mouth indicated that he and the water-works man understood each other.

### *From a heathen standpoint :*

Another day old Lao Yang soberly inquired if a certain neighbor was a "preacher of righteousness," like the other missionaries. Being assured that he was, he added, "Well, that beats me, if he is a preacher of righteousness why does he find it so hard to part with his money?" "Why, Lao Yang, what makes you so sure that he loves money so much?" inquired the water-works man. "Well, there is that piece of work that he knows ought to be done, and indeed, everybody knows it ought to be done. I have been to see him several times, and given him the very lowest terms possible, but he wouldn't hear me. I assure you that man loves not to part with money. No, he don't seem to me to be a preacher of righteousness, for if a man loves money like that he surely can not be a Christian."

### *From another heathen standpoint :*

Another day Lao Yang, hearing that a wealthy Shanghai man wanted the water-works extended to his house, came to the water-works' man, and said, "Now, we Chinese make a distinction between you missionaries and these rich men from Shanghai. The money I get

from you wont buy me my daily food; but here is a man with money, and it is my chance to make a good thing. I have opened my mouth and told him my price, and he said that if you said it was all right he would pay it. Now you must stand by me and see that he gets no cheap work done."

*The demand for the water-works man:*

The other night Kuling suffered perhaps the biggest cloud burst in many years, and much damage was done, for the heavens were opened; no stream could keep its bed, and the tops of the mountains were as the channel of waters. At 2 o'clock in the morning a breathless messenger announced that the water-works man was badly needed, at a certain house further down the hill, that the building was covered with water. Springing into fairly decent wardrobe he rushed to the place and commenced to divert into other channels a wild torrent of water that he found rushing through the house, but he was rudely called to his senses when a fair lady screamed into his ear, high above the voice of the storm, "Never mind that, my coolies can do that as well as you, I have sent for you to ask you to turn off your water-works." Scotland! the water-works man knew he had a great thing in that Methodist spring, but he never suspected cloud bursts and earthquakes would be laid to his charge because of it.

The water-works man has serious thoughts of taking a vacation, and moving out; for there is no salary attached to the office, so there is not enough in it to induce him to stay.

R. E. M.

**A Vacation Letter.**

We have received a letter from Miss E. Mitchell, of Wuhu, who is now on her way home via the Siberian Route. We have not the space for the whole letter which vividly describes many parts of her journey. We give only a sketch.

The letter was written from Trondhjem, Norway, on the 4th, of July. Even in that Northern clime she found others wearing American colors in honor of the day. She speaks enthusiastically of the accommodations all along the way, both on board the company's ships from Shanghai to Dalny, and also by train across Siberia.

At Dalny she called a Russian carriage, or drosky, and expected to have difficulty in making the driver understand but she was surprised and delighted to find the driver a "dear celestial" with whom she could freely converse. Speaking of Dalny she says: "The Russian has come to stay. Many Chinese merchants speak Russian and will use only Russian money."

Manchuria is a fine country consisting mostly of rich prairies covered with grass, and in some places timber.

The Ural mountains resemble in some respects the Blue Ridge in America, and they are full of rich minerals.

Moscow was reached after thirteen days travelling from Dalny, a distance of over 5,000 miles. In Moscow she visited the Kremlin and the new cathedral just outside its walls.

In St. Petersburg she visited several of the principal churches, the palace, and the museum. In the winter palace she saw the apartments of Catherine II., Alexander I., and of Alexander II. She speaks of how in Alexander II's

apartments, every thing is just as he left it, and of the high esteem in which he is still held by all the people.

She speaks of what a beautiful, and wonderful city St. Petersburg is, and of the genuine greatness of Peter the Great in creating such beauty in the midst of such surroundings.

The beauty and wealth of St. Isaac's, — "no doubt the richest church in the world," she also mentions. It has immense pillars of precious stones, and icons crusted with diamonds which are of magnificent splendor. In another cathedral, the Kazau, which she visited, the altar and railing were silver.

From St. Petersburg she sailed through the Gulf of Finland, and across the Baltic in and out among thousands of islands which put her in mind of the Thousand Islands in "our own St. Lawrence River." She spent a week in Stockholm with Mr. Ingleman, who was formerly stationed here in China, at Chinkiang.

From Stockholm she travelled on to the city from which the letter was written and intended in a few days to cross over to Scotland, visit England and then on home to America.

We trust that the rest of her journey has been as interesting and as enjoyable as the first part was.

W. F. W.

### Vacation Recommendations.

Many recommendations which are handed to foreigners by the Chinese seeking work are ambiguous, and are usually taken as equivalent to saying, "Try him if you think best, he is probably as good as many others." The following recommendation from a Chinese storekeeper, however, was taken as undoubted endorsement, and the man was hired.

It was written to a lady at Kuling, and is as follows :

" Dear Sir : The man Yue Thunting who is a cook That he was doing the kitchen about six years in every place. He is innocent man. If you want he to do I can register him of this.

Yours truly,"  
H. C."

### Notes.

W. E. Smith M. D., of the Canadian Methodist Mission, Chentu, is now at home on a furlough. Any who wish to communicate with him may address him at 334 Davenport Rd., Toronto, Ontario.

He writes that he is to be at home 365 days, and has had 400 invitations to speak on Missions.

We regret to say that by the advice of the doctor, Mrs. Edward James is obliged to return to the home land for a season. During this time, Mrs. James expects to make her home in Southern California. Mr. James at present expects to remain at his post after seeing Mrs. James safely on her way.

Hard as it is to say, "good bye" to loved ones at home it does not compare with the demands often made for the breaking up of families on the field.

We trust that the new climate may do more for Mrs. James than even they expect and that in no distant future she may return to the field in abundantly renewed health.

Do not forget our advertisers, nor the RECORD when remembering them.

## **Of Interest To Missionaries.**

We offer the foreign residents in the Orient, a service that we believe is unequalled. We have been shipping family supplies to China and Japan for thirty years. The experience gained during that time is valuable and those who entrust us with their orders have the benefit of it.

Let it be understood that we do not solicit business on a basis of cheapness. It is not meant by this that we make more profit on the goods that we sell than others do, but that we sell the better class of goods.

Those who have favored us with a visit when passing through San Francisco, have become staunch friends, and customers of long-standing. To sell the best goods the world affords, at a reasonable profit, has been our policy, and it has proven a good policy for us.

There are but three larger retail grocers in America, than this house, but there is none that carries a higher grade of food-stuffs, nor a greater variety. To pack goods of different kinds in a case so as to arrive safely, we consider an art. Our men who do this work, have had long experience, and we receive letters from customers in different parts of the Orient, commanding the packing department as being efficient.

The Rev. W. C. Dodd wrote us on October 13th, 1897, on this subject, as fellow :—

Cheung Hai, Lao, *via* Burma and Rahang,  
October 13th, 1897.

Messrs. Goldberg, Bowen & Co.,  
San Francisco, Cal., U.S.A.

Dear Sirs :—

It gives me great pleasure to report that the goods which we sent you the order for last February, arrived here a few days ago, by elephant from Cheung Mai. They had come from Bangkok in a native boat, poled all the way : and it is with pleasure that I report to you that they arrived in the best of condition, and so far as examined, are most satisfactory. Thank you for your promptness and your care in packing and forwarding. I have lived in the Orient more than ten years ; and this is the first time that we have received properly packed goods from America. Henceforth I am not going to tell my friends that they must send to England for goods, if they wish them hermetically sealed.

And in due time you shall hear from us in the shape of another order.

With best thanks for kindness, I am,

Your very sincerely,  
W. C. DODD.

We welcome your letters of inquiry, and will promptly furnish information concerning anything that we handle. You may order supplies from us other than the goods listed in our catalogue, with assurance that the order will be conscientiously and carefully executed.

We buy outside supplies in every possible line almost, and are posted on where to obtain such goods to the best advantage.

We issue a monthly catalogue with prices revised each month, and will cheerfully send it to all who may request it.

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